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October 24, 2003

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NUMBER: EV318248207US  
DATE OF DEPOSIT: October 24, 2003

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "EXPRESS MAIL POST OFFICE TO ADDRESSEE" service under 37 C.F.R. 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Derrick Brown

**MS PATENT APPLICATION**

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Re: U.S. Patent Application Entitled **"INHIBITING WELLBORE DEFORMATION DURING IN SITU THERMAL PROCESSING OF A HYDROCARBON CONTAINING FORMATION"** – Bai et al.

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for filing is a disclosure including a title page, a 267 page specification, 207 pages of claims (Claims 1-1690), and a one page abstract. In addition, we have also included drawings on 140 sheets (figures 1-176). The disclosure and drawings constitute the application of Taixu Bai and Harold J. Vinegar for the above-entitled invention.

This application claims priority to Provisional Patent Application No. 60/420,835 entitled "IN SITU THERMAL PROCESSING OF A HYDROCARBON CONTAINING FORMATION" filed on October 24, 2002, and to Provisional Patent Application No. 60/465,279 entitled "ICP IMPROVEMENTS" filed on April 24, 2003.

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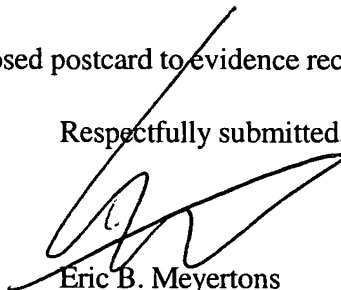
Please note that this application is filed without an inventor Declaration and filing fees. Applicant requests the Patent and Trademark Office to accept this application and accord a serial number and filing date as of the date this application is deposited with the U.S. Postal Service for Express Mail. Further, the Applicant requests that the NOTICE OF MISSING PARTS-FILING DATE GRANTED be sent to the undersigned Applicant representative.

Please address all correspondence in connection with this application to:

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Please date stamp and return the enclosed postcard to evidence receipt of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Eric B. Meyertons', is written over the typed name.

Eric B. Meyertons  
Reg. No. 34,876  
Attorney for Applicant

EBM:jl  
Enclosures